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PRETTY HOMESCHOOL PLANNER INSERTS BUNDLE
STICKERS * CALENDARS & PRETTY INSERTS
Homeschool is a work of heart
Coffee TEACH Repeat
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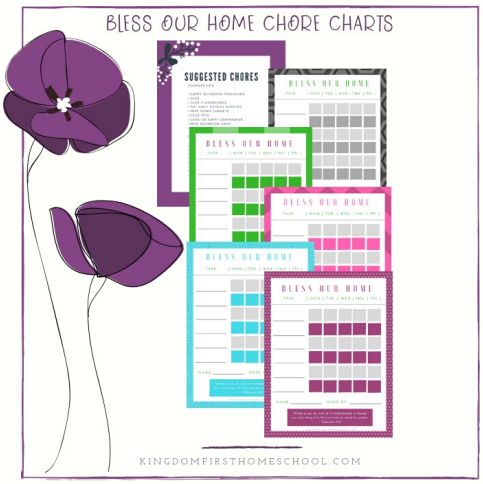

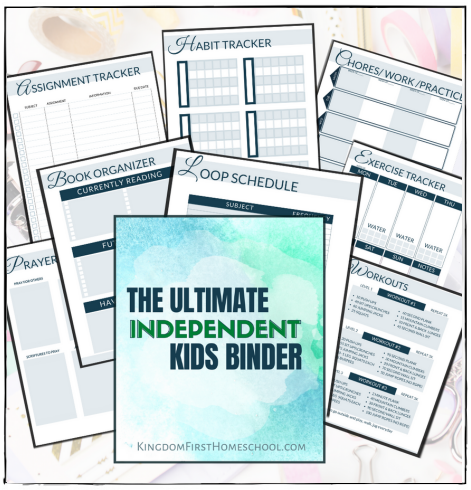

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(QUICKSTART GUIDE TO HOMESCHOOLING)

STEP #1 PRAY

If you are a praying momma you know that this should be the first step in everything.

So pray and ask God to guide you, to lead you towards the calling of your homeschool.

As you pray, make a mission statement for your homeschool and set a few short-term and long-term goals. Always have the end in mind and see the bigger picture.

STEP #2 STATE LAWS

Here in Indiana, we don't have to register or anything. All we have to do is keep track of our attendance starting at age 7, but some states have stricter laws than that. You may be required to have an auditor come and check up on your homeschool. You can take a look at yours at HSLDA --> https://www.hslda.org/laws/default.asp.

STEP #3 CONNECT

This could be from local co-ops to great local homeschool groups. Do a google or facebook search for homeschool (your city). I started a homeschool group a couple years ago, Homeschooling 101 Community, specifically with the new homeschool mom in mind. I wanted to have a safe place for you to feel comfortable chatting about your questions and concerns about homeschooling.

I highly recommend you find a group of like-minded homeschoolers that you can connect with on and offline. As a new homeschool mom, you are gonna have a lot of questions they will answer them. So find your people before moving on to the next step.

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STEP #4 CHAT W/ KIDS

Find out their interests, likes and dislikes. If you pulled them out of school you will want to take some time to **deschool** (just a fancy way to say take it easy).

If they are starting fresh you will still want to take it easy. Start slow and figure out how they learn (AKA their **personal learning style**), what they love and what they want to know more about.

There are so many different **methods to homeschool**. Instilling a love of learning is soooooo important for making this homeschooling thing work. If your kids aren't interested in what they are learning the whole atmosphere will be negative and honestly, they won't remember any of it.

STEP #5 CURRICULUM

Now, this doesn't mean go buy a fancy all-in-one curriculum. I know it's tempting, but please hear me out.

Let's just say you are purchasing a new outfit online, but you have no idea what size you are and you just order something and pray it fits.

Buying homeschool curriculum is the same. You don't want to spend the money only to find out if wasn't a good fit for you or your kids.

Just take some time and figure out what will fit before you buy. I suggest at least a year of homeschooling before you buy a curriculum.

We are a relaxed eclectic homeschool family so we use bits and pieces from a lot of different companies. Here are our choices for this year (**1st, 3rd and 5th grade**).

You can find tons of **FREE homeschool curriculum** to get your feet wet in a few different methods.

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STEP #6 SUPPLIES

I love Amazon for this! You can find great deals on all your homeschooling needs. Also, dollar stores or the back to school sales are great for this.

School Supplies List for Homeschooling

- Pencils (Don't get the decorative ones they are usually terrible quality just get a basic No. 2 and buy them in bulk they tend to disappear without a trace)
- Markers - Washable and dry-erase
- Paint & Paintbrushes (Watercolor and Tempera)
- Chalk
- Glue & Glue Sticks
- Crayons
- Tape
- Stapler & Staples
- Paper - Lined paper, copy paper, colored construction paper and thicker painting paper
- Notebooks - We use these for everything
- Folders - These are used to keep each child's finished or to do papers in.
- Whiteboard or Chalkboard - We have a large whiteboard/chalkboard combo and also small individual whiteboards
- Kids Scissors
- World Map or Globe
- Kids Dictionary
- A Good Printer

Well, that's not everything you will need to buy, but that's the basics and will get you on the way to starting homeschool right and you can always buy as a specific need arises.

STEP #7 PARTY

Yep! That's right!

Throw a party. Let your kids know you are excited about this adventure. Every year we throw a party on the first day. Here's a **first day of homeschool post** I did with a lot of ideas to get you started. I like to buy school supplies and wrap them. Makes it super fun and a great start to an awesome year.

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STEP #8 NEW MINDSET

This is a toughy!

You are gonna be tempted to do school for waaaay too long, like following the public school timeline. We have been programmed to think that learning only happens with a certain number of hours completed per day. This is not necessary.

We start around 9 and are done by lunch, sometimes way before. I've even heard of people who homeschool in an hour a day.

Drop the public school mentality. Homeschooling is seriously completely different than public school. You can get everything done in a short period of time. I recommend using a **routine instead of a schedule** because life happens.

STEP #9 TAKE NOTES

As you are getting to know your kids, how they learn, their interests and such, jot it down.

Keep a little journal of what they have mastered, their interests, dislikes, struggles etc. Do they learn best with hands-on activities? Do they thrive using workbooks?

You will thank yourself later for this and it will be fun to look back at years from now. As homeschoolers, we do not have to keep grades, so this is nice to have to feel at ease at knowing where they are and what to work on.

STEP #10 HAVE FUN

Trust me there are going to be a lot of battles, so choose them wisely. If you are having **a frustrating or rough day** then just hit the reset button, throw out the lesson plans and do something fun.

Go for a walk, go to the park or library. Just change it up a bit. Sometimes you and the kids will get burnt out and it calls for a fun day.

Honestly, starting homeschool is not as hard as you may think. Just relax and have fun. Don't put too much pressure on yourself or try to get every single subject in a day. Start simple and go with the flow. You got this!

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STEP 1

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STEP 2

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STEP 10

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TO DO LIST

NOTES

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SHOPPING

NOTES

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CURRICULUM

NOTES

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